

reaffirm their devotion to the fundamental principles of religious freedom and tolerance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 18, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on January 19.

Proclamation 7268—Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday, 2000

January 14, 2000

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

Just this month, thousands of Americans gathered at the Lincoln Memorial to welcome a new year, a new century, and a new millennium. There—where 37 years ago Martin Luther King, Jr., so eloquently voiced his dream for America's future—we pledged not only to keep Dr. King's dream alive, but also to bring it to reality in the 21st century.

We are living in a time of unprecedented peace and prosperity for our Nation, where the struggles of the valiant and visionary men and women who came before us have borne fruit with the guarantee of civil rights at home and the triumph of freedom in nations across the globe. But we cannot afford to become complacent. As Dr. King so wisely observed, "We have learned to fly the air like birds and swim the sea like fish, but we have not learned the simple art of living together as brothers. Our abundance has brought us neither peace of mind nor serenity of spirit."

We must seize this rare moment in our Nation's history to build a society in which we accept our differences and honor our common humanity. We must unite against the forces of hatred, fear, and ignorance that

seek to divide us. We must use our economic success and our technological prowess to widen the circle of opportunity, to eliminate poverty, and to give all our children the education, values, and encouragement they need to reach their full potential.

Each year since 1994, when I signed into law the King Holiday and Service Act, Americans have marked this observance by devoting the day to service projects in their communities. By renovating schools, cleaning up neighborhoods, tutoring children, donating blood, organizing food drives, or reaching out in some other way to those in need, our citizens can work together to make this a day on, not a day off, and to make their own contributions to Dr. King's legacy of service.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was not content to rest on past successes or to compromise his convictions. If he were with us now to mark his 71st birthday, he would exhort us not to grow weary in doing good but to reach out to one another in the spirit of service and forge a future in which all Americans are proud of our diversity and united in our reverence for freedom, justice, and equality.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Monday, January 17, 2000, as the Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday. I call upon all Americans to observe this occasion with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities in honor of Dr. King's life and achievements and in response to his call to service.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 18, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on January 19.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

January 9

In the evening, the President traveled to Shepherdstown, WV, where he met with Prime Minister Ehud Barak of Israel. Later, he returned to Washington, DC, arriving after midnight.

January 10

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Annapolis, MD, and later, he returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President traveled to Grand Canyon, AZ.

The President declared a major disaster in Kentucky and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by tornadoes, severe storms, torrential rains, and flash flooding on January 3–4.

The White House announced that the President will include an increase in his FY 2001 budget to improve the Nation's ability to target, contain, control, and prevent outbreaks of infectious disease.

January 11

In the morning, the President toured areas of the Grand Canyon by helicopter.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Houston, TX, and in the evening, he returned to Washington, DC, arriving after midnight.

The President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom.

The President announced his intention to appoint Bonnie Prouty Castrey as Chair and David J. Leland as Member of the Federal Service Impasses Panel.

January 12

In the afternoon, the President met with Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams in the Oval Office.

In the evening, the President traveled to Chappaqua, NY.

The President announced his intention to appoint Richard J. Gonzales as Member of the Advisory Council of the Border Environment Cooperation Commission.

January 13

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria. Later, he traveled to New York City. In the evening, the President returned to Chappaqua, NY.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gov. Marc Racicot to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The President announced his intention to appoint Michael M. Reyna as Chair of the Farm Credit Administration Board.

January 14

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced the appointment of Victoria Wilson as a member of U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released January 11

Fact sheet: Colombia Assistance Package

Transcript of a press briefing by Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt and Council on Environmental Quality Acting Chairman George Frampton on the President's designation of